

REMARKS

The Specification was amended to add the title "Brief Description of the Drawings" before the descriptions of the eleven Figures.

The Specification was also amended to include the claim to priority to match that of the Declaration in this case.

Claims 1-22 and 25-51 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-18, 20-22, 25-46, 48 and 50 have been withdrawn.

Claims 19, 47, 49 and 51 stand rejected.

Claim 51 has been canceled.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 19, 47, 49 and 51 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically the term "semi-crystalline" is considered subjective and therefore unclear. Claims 19, 47, and 49 are mistakenly included in this rejection, since the offensive term "semi-crystalline" does not appear in these claims. Claim 51, which was specifically to a "semi-crystalline thermoplastic resin" has been canceled, making this rejection mute.

35 U.S.C. §§102(e) and 103(a)

Claim 51 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated, or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over US 6,143,826 or over Mehler Kunststoffe, Oct 1988 88(10), 1872, 1874, 1876. Claim 51 has been canceled, making the rejection mute.

Double Patenting Rejection

Please note that the present case was filed in the US on December 1, 2000.

US Application No. 9/884,108 was filed June 20, 2001.

US 6,762,245 was filed December 3, 2001.

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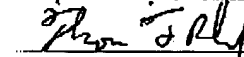
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Claims 19, 47, 49 and 51 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-20, and 22-26 of copending Application No. 9/884,108. As noted above, the instant application was US filed on December 1, 2000, while the US application 9/884,108 has a US filing date of June 20 2001. Thus, while there is only a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection, such a rejection is improper in the instant case, as it has a US filing date prior to the reference, and thus there is no time period to disclaim, even if both applications are allowed.

Claims 19, 47, 49 and 51 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-19 of US Patent Number 6,762,245, filed on December 3, 2001. This rejection is also improper in the instant case, as it has a US filing date prior to the reference, and thus there is no time period to disclaim.

Since all rejections are now mute, and claims 19, 47 and 49 stand with no objections or rejections, Applicant believes the claims herein should be allowable to the Applicant. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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